

Message Text

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SUBJ: TRAINING FOR ALGERIANS

REF: (A) ALGIERS 2769 (B) ALGIERS 2759

(C) STATE 13200 (D) ALGIERS 0225

1. DURING RECENT WASHINGTON CONSULTATION I MADE EFFORT INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITIES IMPROVING COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRAINING ALGERIAN STUDENTS IN U.S. AT EXPENSE GOA. AS REPORTED REFTEL, ALGERIANS FEEL NEED FOR FIRMER ADMINISTRATIVE BACKUP. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT BASIC TO PROBLEM IS LACK OF COORDINATION ON ALGERIAN SIDE COMPOUNDED BY LACK OF EXPERIENCE IN EITHER RUNNING OR ORGANIZING TRAINING PROGRAMS WITH PRIVATE, NON-GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS. ADDITIONALLY, AT LEAST SOME OF INSTITUTIONS IN QUESTION (CALCUSEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER) DO NOT HAVE RESOURCES NECESSARY TO PROVIDE LOCAL ADMINISTRATION THAT ALGERIANS NEED. ALSO BASIC TO PROBLEM IS FACT THAT USG UNEQUIPPED PROVIDE SERVICES REQUIRED THROUGH ANY OF ITS AGENCIES. CU IS INTERESTED IN MATTER, BUT HAS NO MANDATE TO DEAL WITH IT. AID APPEARS BE ABLE AT LEAST GIVE US SOME GUIDANCE ON WHAT TO TELL ALGERIANS, BUT NOT EQUIPPED TO PROVIDE SERVICES. DURING MY CONSULTATION IT WAS AGREED FORMALLY THAT JAMES CHANDLER FROM AID'S OFFICE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES WOULD COME HERE IN FEBRUARY TO TAKE A LOOK AT SITUATION AND GET BETTER FEEL FOR DIMENSIONS OF

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PROBLEM. WE ARE IN RECEIPT HIS JANUARY 3 MEMO TO ME IN

THIS REGARD AND FOLLOWING ARE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
RAISED THEREIN.

2. TO BEGIN WITH, WE AGREE WITH GENERAL OBSERVATIONS
AND CONCLUSIONS PAGE 1 AND 2 OF MEMO. ALGERIAN
ABILITY MAINTAIN GROWTH RATE IS, AS WE HAVE NOTED
ELSEWHERE, PROBLEMATICAL, AND TRAINING OF NEEDED
MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL PERSONNEL IS GOING TO BE
MAJOR HURDLE IN THAT REGARD. TRAINING PROGRAMS
DISCUSSED WITH U.S. ARE TECHNICAL AND ENGINEERING,
NOT MANAGEMENT.

3. WITH REGARD FRENCH, GERMAN AND CANADIAN PROJECTS,
ESSENTIAL FEATURE IN EACH CASE IS WILLINGNESS OF HOST
GOVERNMENT TO TAKE IN HAND THE SUPERVISION OR OPERATION
OF TRAINING PROGRAMS. THIS NOT ONLY PROVIDES CENTRAL
AUTHORITY THROUGH WHICH REQUESTS CAN BE CHANNELLED
AND WHICH WILL MAKE DECISIONS AS TO PLACEMENT, ETC.,
IT ALSO PROVIDES SUPERVISING BODY THAT HAS FINANCIAL
AND HUMAN RESOURCES NEEDED TO COPE WITH ALGERIAN
PERFORMANCE ON SUCH MATTERS AS PAYMENT,
ISSUANCE OF PASSPORTS TO STUDENTS, ETC.

4. NO ONE HAS STAKED OUT ANY PARTICULAR AREA FOR
THEMSELVES BUT CANADIANS ARE WORKING PRIMARILY IN
FIELD OF MANAGEMENT AND MERCHANT MARINE. CANADIAN
PROGRAM IS TO CREATE AN ALGERIAN BUSINESS SCHOOL.
THEY HAVE 10 - 12 PROFESSORS HERE AND ARE TRAINING
ANOTHER 12 IN CANADA. CANADIAN TEACHERS WILL BE
PHASED OUT IN A YEAR OR TWO. GERMANS HAVE RESERVED
100 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ALGERIA. THEY TRAIN IN
GERMAN FOR THREE MONTHS HERE IN ALGIERS AND THREE
MONTHS IN GERMANY BEFORE BEING PHASED INTO GERMAN
TECHNICAL SCHOOLS BY SPECIAL OFFICE OF FRG.
GERMANY CANNOT, HOWEVER, FIND QUALIFIED STUDENTS
SO PROGRAM ONLY HALF UTILIZED. DIAG
IS TRAINING HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS IN CONNECTION WITH
PRIVATE CONTRACTS THEY INSURE FOR GERMAN COMPANIES.
GOVERNMENT IS NOT INVOLVED IN THIS, AND HAS HAD
ENOUGH TROUBLE WITH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. FRENCH
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GOVERNMENT PROVIDES SEVERAL HUNDRED SCHOLARSHIPS
A YEAR IN VARIOUS DISCIPLINES -- LAW, LETTERS,
SCIENCE, ECONOMICS, POLITICAL SCIENCE, AGRICULTURE,
PUBLIC HEALTH, INDUSTRY, MEDICINE, PUBLIC WORKS --
FOR TWO OR THREE YEARS AND MORE IF STUDENT PERFORMS
WELL. GOA SELECTS THE CANDIDATES AND, ACCORDING
TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY, THE ANNUAL QUOTA IS NEVER FILLED.
SEVERAL HUNDRED OTHERS GO FOR THREE TO SIX MONTH SPECIAL

STUDIES PROGRAMS. MANY MORE GO ON THEIR OWN OR THROUGH ALGERIAN NATIONAL COPRS. SINCE NO VISA REQUIRED, FRENCH CANNOT KEEP TRACK OF HOW MANY OR WHERE. UNLIKE ALGERIAN STUDENTS IN U.S., U.K., OR GERMANY, THOSE IN FRENCE EXPERIENCE RELATIVELY LITTLE DIFFICULTY. FIRST, THEY HAVE THE LANGUAGE. SECOND, ALGERIAN STUDENTS IN FRANCE CAN ALMOST ALWAYS FIND AN ALGERIAN RELATIVE OR FRIEND FOR ADVICE AND COUNSEL, OR EVEN A LITTLE FOOD AND MONEY.

5. THERE IS A NATIONAL SCHOOL OF ADMINISTRATION, BUT IT IS NOT ATTACHED TO PRESIDENCE AND ITS ROLE DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE CRITICAL, OR EVEN IMPORTANT, AS FAR AS TECHNOLOGICAL TRAINING IS CONCERNED.

6. A SUMMARY OF FOUR YEAR PLAN IS AVAILABLE IN ALGIERS A-051, OCTOBER 4, 1974. FULL TEXT AVAILABLE IN AFN.

7. FOLLOWING ARE SOME MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST:

A. ON PASSING THROUGH LONDON, I DISCOVERED BRITISH HAVE IDENTICAL PROBLEM WITH ALGERIAN STUDENTS IN UK, WHO NUMBER SOME 600 TO 800. ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR SPENDS GREAT DEAL OF TIME ON PLACEMENT AND COUNSELING, AND BRITISH COUNCIL EXPLAINS IT UNABLE TO HELP BECAUSE IT NOT PAYING THE BILL FOR STUDENTS IN QUESTION. FOREIGN OFFICE UNHAPPY WITH SITUATION BUT ALSO APPEARS UNABLE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. IN BOTH US AND UK PROBLEM IS THAT ALGERIANS ARE FACED WITH DISTURBING FREEDOM OF CHOICE.

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B. ONE POSSIBILITY FOR ASSISTING ALGERIANS IS THROUGH USE OF AMERICAN FRIENDS OF MIDDLE EAST. AFME REPRESENTATIVE, DAVID MIZE, WHI IN ALGIERS AT MOMENT WORKING ON FORD FOUNDATION SURVEY, BEING CONDUCTED AT ALGERIAN REQUEST, REGARDING POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT MODERN LANGUAGE INSTITUTE, CLAIMS AFME COULD MEET ALL OF ALGERIAN REQUIREMENTS REGARDING PLACEMENT AND COUNSELING AND COULD DO SO FOR MINIMAL FEE OF DOLS. 500 PER STUDENT, OR 6 PERCENT OF COMPREHENSIVE FEES (WHICH HE ESTIMATES AT DOLS. 7500 PER GRADUATE STUDENT), AS COMPARED 20 TO 25 PERCENT HE SAYS IS BEING ASKED BY CALCUSEARCH AND EDC. HE SAYS AFME COULD ALSO SUBCONTRACT AND SUPERVISE OPERATION OF INSTITUTIONS HERE SUCH AS PLASTICS INSTITUTE WITH WHICH EDC SEEMS TO BE HAVING SO MUCH TROUBLE.

I RAISED WITH MIZE OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT ALGERIANS
WARY OF DEALING WITH AFME BECAUSE OF RAMPARTS
DISCLOSURES. MIZE THINKS SOME OF AFME'S POTENTIAL
COMPETITORS MAY HAVE BEEN BAD-MOUTHING THEM AND
HAS ASKED THAT WE TELL ALGERIANS ORGANIZATIONS IS
IN NO WAY ASSOCIATED WITH CIA. I AM PREPARED TO DO
SO, BUT DO NOT KNOW WHAT ALGERIAN ATTITUDE WILL BE.

8. EDC IS WORKING CLOSELY WITH GTE ON ELECTRICAL
TRAINING INSTITUTE AND WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH AID
IN WASHINGTON ABOUT THEIR PROBLEMS. GTE IS PRESENTLY
WORKING WITH EMBASSY TO SEND FIRST 44 STUDENTS TO
U.S.; BUT PAPERWORK IS VERY DEMANDING ON SMALL U.S.
STAFF HERE AND ALGERIANS CHRONICALLY CANNOT MAKE
NECESSARY DECISIONS TO CONFORM TO NEEDED LEAD TIME.

9. ANOTHER PRIVATE U.S. PLACEMENT ORGANIZATION,
THIS ONE THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FOUNDATION, HAS
RECENTLY SIGNED A PILOT CONTRACT WITH THE HYDROCARBURES
DIVISION OF SONATRACH FOR PLACEMENT AND WATCHING OVER OF
100 ALGERIAN STUDENTS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN STUDIES IN
THE U.S. IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. THE NON-PROFIT
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FOUNDATION SHOWS PROMISE. IT
IS AN OFFSHOOT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE SERVICES WHICH
ALREADY HAS A RESPECTABLE RECORD IN PROVIDING INTENSIVE
ENGLISH PROGRAMS FOR ALGERIAN AND OTHER FOREIGN STUDENTS
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